

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-18 without disclaimer or prejudice.

Please add claims 19-53 as follows:

- 1 19. A system for configuring a highly-available data processing system,
2 comprising:
3 (a) an inspection agent adapted to:
4 (i) automatically explore and inspect a production server;
5 (ii) identify and collect a plurality of production server computer
6 parameters;
7 (iii) generate a production server computer parameter database of
8 the production server computer parameters necessary to
9 configure the production server to be the highly-available data
10 processing system;
11 (b) an expert-system module adapted to:
12 (i) read the production server computer parameter database;
13 (ii) generate a project database comprising the production server
14 computer parameters, a plurality of default questions and a
15 plurality of additional questions, if any, and the respective
16 production server computer parameters derived from the

17 answers used to define the highly-available data processing
 18 system;
 19 (iii) selecting from a plurality of predefined rules those rules
 20 pertinent to analyze the project database; and
 21 (iv) define the highly-available data processing system from the
 22 production server computer parameter database.

1 20. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of
 2 claim 19 further comprising a user-interactive module by which to display
 3 the project database to a user.

1 21. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of
 2 claim 20 wherein the user-interactive module further comprises a menu by
 3 which a user may enter additional answers to the questions and additional
 4 information to the project database to define the highly-available data
 5 processing system.

1 22. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of
 2 claim 20 wherein the user-interactive module permits a user to select the
 3 computer parameters defining the highly-available data processing system.

23. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of claim 19 wherein the expert system client-side module determines and selects additional questions that require answers in order to analyze the project database.

24. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of claim 23 wherein the expert system client-side module automatically inspects the project database to determine answers to the additional questions.

25. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of claim 19 wherein the computer processing parameters to define the highly-available data processing system comprise one or more of the following: names of one or more computer processing machines, types of the one or more computer processing machines, operating systems of the one or more computer processing machines, mass-storage connected to the one or more computer processing machines, magnetic tape storage connected to the one or more computer processing machines, a plurality of system values of the one or more computer processing machines, or one or more network attributes of the one or more computer processing machines.

1 26. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of
2 claim 19 wherein the computer processing parameters to define the highly-
3 available data processing system comprises one or more file systems of the
4 production server.

1 27. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of
2 claim 19 wherein the computer processing parameters to define the highly-
3 available data processing system comprises one or more user libraries, one
4 or more software objects, or data used by the production server.

1 28. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of
2 claim 19 wherein the computer processing parameters to define the highly-
3 available data processing system comprises one or more user programs that
4 exploit operating system commands relevant to the highly-available data
5 processing system.

1 29. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of
2 claim 19 wherein the expert system client side module further generates
3 one or more recommendations or corrective actions to define the highly-
4 available data processing system.

30. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of claim 29 wherein the expert system client side module further automatically implements the one or more recommendations or corrective actions to define the highly-available data processing system.

31. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of claim 19 wherein the project database is a relational database.

32. The system for configuring a highly-available data processing system of claim 19 wherein the default questions, the additional questions, the plurality of predefined rules, and the recommendations and corrective actions are structured as extensible markup language (XML) files.

33. An apparatus to create a highly-available data processing system, comprising:

- (a) an interrogation agent to inspect a computer and to generate a database having a plurality of computer parameters necessary to define a highly-available data processing system;
- (b) a knowledge expert agent comprising a plurality of default inquiries, a plurality of predefined expert rules, a plurality of secondary inquiries, and a plurality of recommendations, suggestions, corrective actions to define a highly-available data processing system;

- (c) an automatic analysis engine to:
 - (i) apply the predefined expert rules to the plurality of computer parameters;
 - (ii) to select any of the plurality of secondary inquiries based on answers to the default inquiries and the predefined expert rules to the computer parameters; and
 - (iii) to select any recommendations, suggestions, or corrective actions determined by answers to the default and the secondary inquiries and the predefined expert rules to implement on the computer to define a highly-available data processing system.

34. The apparatus to create a highly-available data processing system, as in claim 33, wherein the interrogation agent stores the computer parameters necessary to define a highly-available data processing system.

35. The apparatus to create a highly-available data processing system, as in claim 33, wherein the automatic analysis engine generates a project database, the project database comprising:

- (a) the computer parameters;
- (b) the default and the secondary inquiries used;
- (c) the answers to the default and secondary inquiries; and

(d) the suggestions, recommendations, or corrective actions generated.

36. The apparatus to create a highly-available data processing system, as in claim 35, wherein the project database is stored on a client computer.

37. The apparatus to create a highly-available data processing system, as in claim 35, wherein the project database is stored in a repository.

38. The apparatus to create a highly-available data processing system, as in claim 33, further comprising a collocation agent that automatically collocates the computer parameters and creates a highly-available data processing system.

39. A method to configure a highly-available data processing system, comprising the steps of:

- (a) automatically inspecting a production server to obtain a plurality of computer parameters necessary to configure the production server into the highly-available data processing system;
- (b) automatically invoking an expert-system client-side software agent;
- (c) the expert-system client side software agent automatically analyzing the plurality of computer parameters using an expert knowledge database.

40. The method to configure a highly-available data processing system, as in claim 39, further comprising installing a server-side software agent onto the production server prior to the step of automatically inspecting the production server that performs the step of automatically inspecting the production server to obtain a plurality of computer parameters necessary to configure the production server into the highly-available data processing system.

41. The method to configure a highly-available data processing system as in claim 39 further comprising the expert-system client side software agent automatically implementing a corrective action required by a plurality of default questions and rules, the corrective action and the plurality of default questions and rules comprising the expert knowledge database.

42. The method to configure a highly-available data processing system as in claim 39 further comprising the expert-system client side software agent automatically generating a report of the analysis of the plurality of computer parameters using the expert knowledge database.

43. The method to configure a highly-available data processing system as in claim 42 further comprising generating an HTML report of the analysis.

44. The method to configure a highly-available data processing system as in claim 42 further comprising generating an XML report of the analysis.

45. The method to configure a highly-available data processing system as in claim 39 further comprising automatically collocating the computer parameters into the highly-available data processing system.

46. The method to configure a highly-available data processing system as in claim 45 further comprising automatically mirroring the collocated computer parameters in a second data processing system.

47. A configurator of a highly-available data processing environment, comprising: a knowledge database as a computer program product stored in a computer-readable medium, the knowledge database further comprising:

- (a) a plurality of default questions to be answered for a data processing system to define a highly-available data processing environment;
- (b) a plurality of automatic analysis rules to apply to the answers of the default questions to define the highly-available data processing environment;
- (c) a plurality of secondary questions to be answered dependent upon the automatic analysis rules;

(d) a plurality of recommendations/suggestions and prescriptions of corrective actions that could be performed on the data processing system to define and set up the highly-available data processing environment.

48. The configurator of claim 47 further comprising: an expert analysis engine as a computer program product stored in a computer-readable medium whereby the expert analysis engine applies the knowledge database to the data processing system.

49. The configurator of claim 47 further comprising an interrogation agent as a computer program product stored in a computer-readable medium whereby the interrogation agent inspects and selects and stores a plurality of computer processing parameters of the data processing system and submits the plurality of computer processing parameters to the expert analysis engine for application of the knowledge database to define and setup the highly-available data processing environment.

50. The configurator of claim 49 further comprising a report stored in a computer-readable medium, the report comprising a description of the highly-available data processing environment inspected by the interrogation agent, and analyzed by the expert analysis engine according to the

questions and rules and recommendations and corrective actions of the
knowledge database.

51. The configurator of claim 50 wherein the interrogation agent, the knowledge
database, and the expert analysis engine are connected to each other across
a data communications network.

52. The configurator of claim 47 further comprising a knowledge database
management software module as a computer program product stored in a
computer-readable medium whereby a user can modify the contents of the
knowledge database.

53. The highly-available data processing environment configured by the
configurator of claim 49.